

ARRAYLIST

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➤ What is ArrayList?

- ArrayList is a **resizable array** (dynamic array) in Java.
- It **automatically grows or shrinks** as we add/remove elements.
- It **comes from the Collection Framework**.
- It is **part of java.util package**.
- It **implements List interface**, so it keeps the **insertion order** (order of elements remains the same).

Why do we need ArrayList?

💡 Problem with Array

- Array has **fixed size** — once created, you **cannot increase or decrease its length**.
`int[] arr = new int[5]; // Fixed size array`

➤ Solution - ArrayList

- ArrayList handles size **automatically**.
- Add or remove any time — no manual resizing.

➤ Key Features of ArrayList

- ✓ Dynamic resizing
- ✓ Maintains insertion order
- ✓ Allows duplicates
- ✓ Allows null values
- ✓ Random access (index-based like array)

◆ Real World Example - Where to Use?

Use Case	Example
✓ Shopping Cart	Add/remove items dynamically.
✓ Attendance List	Add student names, mark present/absent.
✓ Dynamic Menu	Add/remove menu items from a list.
✓ Form Selection	Store user-selected items in a list.

➤ Creating ArrayList (Syntax)

a. `ArrayList<String> list = new ArrayList<>();`

◆ Advantages of ArrayList

- ✓ Easy to use (like normal array)
- ✓ Dynamic resizing (no size headache)
- ✓ Lots of ready methods in Collection framework

- ✓ Supports all data types using Generics

◆ Disadvantages of ArrayList

- ✗ Slow if adding/removing in **middle** (because shifting needed)
- ✗ Not thread-safe (needs manual synchronization for multi-threading)
- ✗ Slightly slower than array for **fixed-size data** (due to resizing overhead)

◆ When to Use ArrayList?

Use Case	Recommended?
✓ Data is dynamic	Yes
✓ Order matters	Yes
✓ Duplicates allowed	Yes
✗ High-speed insert/remove at start/middle	No (Use <code>LinkedList</code>)
✗ Multi-threading	No (Use <code>Vector</code> or <code>Collections.synchronizedList()</code>)

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◆ Quick Difference: Array vs ArrayList

Feature	Array	ArrayList
Size	Fixed	Dynamic
Type	Primitive + Objects	Objects only
Performance	Faster (direct memory)	Slightly slower (resizing)
Flexibility	Less	More
Part of	Core Java	Collection Framework



Real Life Analogy to Explain to Students

Concept	Example
Array	Fixed-size classroom with exactly 30 seats — no more, no less
ArrayList	Flexible seminar hall where you can add or remove chairs anytime

CODE:

```
package collection_framework;
import java.util.ArrayList;

public class ArrayListDemo {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        ArrayList<String> list = new ArrayList<>();

        list.add("Apple");
        list.add("Banana");
        list.add("Mango");

        System.out.println("Original List: " + list);

        // ArrayList does not have addFirst() or addLast()
        list.add(0, "Orange");    // Equivalent to addFirst()
        list.add("Grapes");       // Equivalent to addLast()

        System.out.println("After addFirst and addLast (manually): " + list);

        // Removing first and last element
        list.remove(0);           // removeFirst equivalent
        list.remove(list.size() - 1); // removeLast equivalent

        System.out.println("After removeFirst and removeLast: " + list);

        System.out.println("First element: " + list.get(0));
        System.out.println("Last element: " + list.get(list.size() - 1));

        System.out.println("Contains Mango? " + list.contains("Mango"));
        System.out.println("Index of Banana: " + list.indexOf("Banana"));

        list.set(1, "Kiwi");
```

```
System.out.println("After set(1, Kiwi): " + list);

list.remove("Apple");
System.out.println("After removing Apple: " + list);

System.out.println("Size: " + list.size());

list.clear();
System.out.println("After clear, isEmpty? " + list.isEmpty());
}

}
```